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# SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of August)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters decreased in August for the second consecutive month. The land crew total decreased by two to 87, and the marine crew total decreased for the fifth consecutive month to fifteen, a net total decrease of three crews, to 102 crews. **This total establishes a new low number of crews and vessels working in the United States since SEG instigated its monthly survey in May of 1974.**

The August total (102) represents a decrease of 3% from last month, an 18% decrease from August, 1990, a 25% decrease from August, 1989, a 46% decrease from August, 1988, a 45% decrease from August, 1987, a 35% decrease from August, 1986, and **a decrease of 74% from the same month in 1985.**

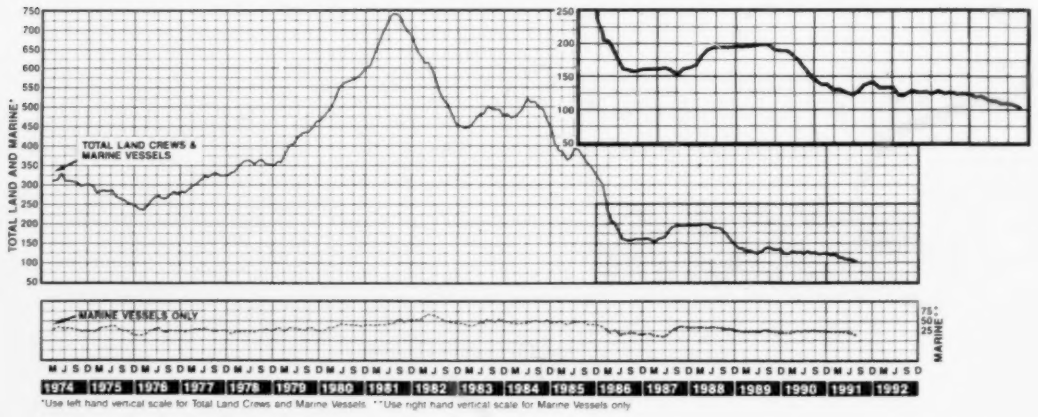
During August, four contractors were operating seven of the 81 land crews and one of the thirteen marine vessels on a speculative basis.

| TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS: | This Month 102 | Last Month 105 | Aug.'90 125 | Aug.'89 136 | Aug.'88 188 | Aug.'87 187 | Aug.'86 156 | Aug.'85 390 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

| | LAND CREWS | | | | | | | | MARINE VESSELS | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | This Mo. | Last Mo. | Aug. 1990 | Aug. 1989 | Aug. 1988 | Aug. 1987 | Aug. 1986 | Aug. 1985 | This Mo. | Last Mo. | Aug. 1990 | Aug. 1989 | Aug. 1988 | Aug. 1987 | Aug. 1986 | Aug. 1985 |
| 33 Contr's: | 81 | 84 | 94 | 100 | 141 | 145 | 120 | 308 | 13 | 14 | 21 | 23 | 27 | 25 | 16 | 42 |
| 4 Oil Co's: | 6 | 5 | 8 | 10 | 15 | 14 | 17 | 33 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| 1 Gov't: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| TOTALS | 87 | 89 | 102 | 110 | 156 | 159 | 137 | 341 | 15 | 16 | 23 | 26 | 32 | 28 | 19 | 49 |

### SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)


TOTAL LAND AND MARINE*
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
MARINE**
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1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992
*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only.

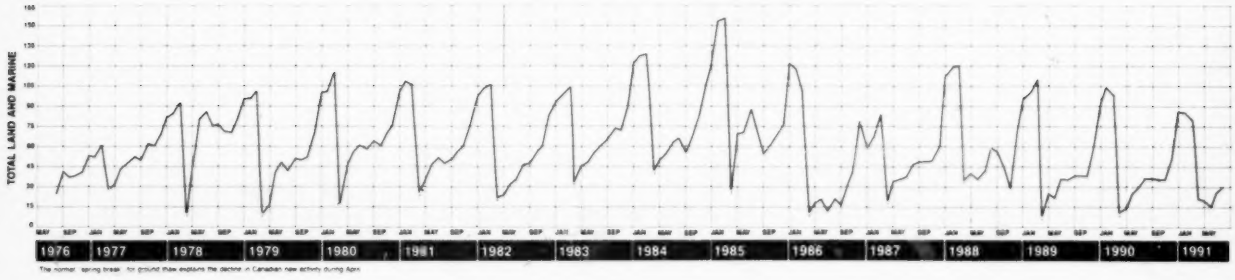
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

August, 1991 (July figures in parentheses)

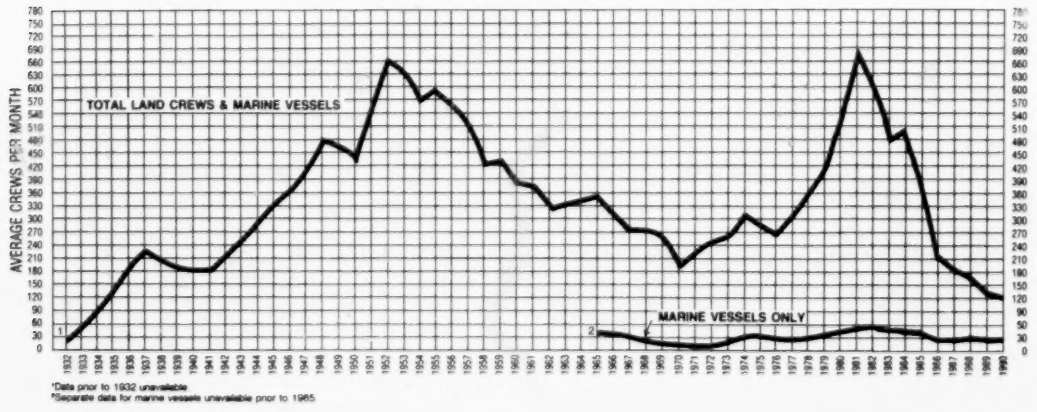
| | Land Crews | Marine Crews |
|---|---|---|
| 16 Contractors: | 26 ( 23) | 4 (3) |
| 0 Oil Companies: | 0 ( 0) | 0 (0) |
| Totals: | 26 ( 23) | 4 (3) |

**CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT**
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)




SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was instigated in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy.

**HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES**
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)




*Data prior to 1932 unavailable
*Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965